Clause 8 to 14 - Other issues:

(i) The power to issue citizenship certificates now vests only with the Central Government.

(ii) As on 30.6.2009 out of 3286.87 KM fencing sanctioned along Indo-Bangladesh border, 2655 KM of border fence has been completed. In Assam sector, out of 223 KM (Phase I & II) of sanctioned fencing along Indo-Bangladesh border, 219 KM has been completed. Since the fencing erected under Phase-1 had outlived its life, therefore, it is being replaced with a composite type fencing.

(iii) *Ex-gratia* payment was made to the next of kin of persons killed in the course of the agitation.

(iv) Disciplinary cases against employees in connection with the agitation were reviewed.

(v) In the matter of recruitment, orders were issued by the Central Government for relaxation in upper age limit upto a maximum of six years in the case of candidates who had ordinarily resided in the State of Assam during the period 1.1.1980 to 15.8.1985.

(vi) NSA detenues detained in connection with agitation were released.

Relaxation in Visa Rules

1449. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating relaxations in Visa for industrial/business venture or employment;

(b) if so, the details of number of Visas annually issued in these categories for different nationals at present; and

(c) the policy to regulate the unskilled people from China, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Pakistan, Maldives, Sri Lanka and other countries entering into Indian market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The information regarding number of business and employment visas issued annually is not centrally maintained.

(c) The matter has been reviewed by the Government and it has been decided that, henceforth Business Visa will be issued only to *bonafide* businessmen who want to visit India to establish an industrial/business venture or to explore possibilities to set up industrial business venture in India or who want to purchase/sell industrial products or commercial products or consumer durable etc. It has also been decided that Employment Visa will be granted only to skilled

and qualified professional appointed at senior level, skilled position etc and will not be granted for jobs for which a large number of qualified Indians are available. Suitable instructions/guidelines have been issued to the Indian Missions abroad to effectively regulate Employment and Business Visa regimes and ensure that these are issued strictly as per prescribed norms.

Citizens from various countries living as refugees in India

1450. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is having the data of citizens entering from various countries and living in India as refugees;

(b) how many people in every State living as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) monitored persons and how many are not covered under the UNHCR and the reasons for the same; and

(c) how many of them have applied for citizenship in India and the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Details of citizens from other countries living in India as refugees and those covered/not covered under UNHCR are not centrally maintained.

(c) Requests received for grant of Indian citizenship are considered by the Government in terms of the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955. As per Rule 11 to 13 of the Citizenship Rules 2009, the application for grant of Indian citizenship are received and processed at different stages by the State and Central Governments. No centralized data of such applications received for Indian citizenship is maintained.

Migrant population not able to apply for various facilities

1451. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people living in urban as well as rural areas of the country of frequently migrating from rural to urban areas and without their own roof over their heads are not able to apply for various facilities such as opening an account in bank or post office, LPG connection etc., for want of ID proof; and

(b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to address the problem of this segment of population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) No Sir. This office conducts decennial population census wherein data on various socio-